

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 00265 161004Z

60  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FAA-00 /068 W  
----- 126250

R 151650Z JAN 76  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0991

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OSLO 0265

REFS: OSLO 0142, 75 OSLO 4777, OSLO 0226, OSLO 0156

1. BUCHER-JOHANNESSEN, FONMIN POLAR ADVISOR, INFORMED  
EMBOFF THAT A MEMBER OF NORWEGIAN PRESS CALLED HIM  
RECENTLY TO ASK ABOUT US DRIFT STATION PROJECT NEAR  
SVALBARD. BUCHER-JOHANNESSEN BELIEVES NEWSMAN MAY HAVE  
LEARNED ABOUT PROJECT FROM STORTINGSMAN, AS PARLIAMENT'S  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WAS BRIEFED ON GENERAL OUTLINE  
OF PROPOSED PROJECT IN CONNECTION WITH STORTING DEBATE  
IN DECEMBER.

2. BUCHER-JOHANNESSEN URGED NEWSMAN TO HOLD STORY UNTIL  
PROJECT IS APPROVED AND READY TO BE ANNOUNCED PUBLICALLY.  
EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION IS THAT PORJECT WAS TO BE REVIEWED  
INTERNALY FOR APPROVAL NEXT MONTH WITH FUNDING DECIDION  
TO BE SOON AFTER, AND WE AGREED WITH BUCHER-JOHANNESSEN  
THAT UNTIL THOSE DECISIONS ARE MADE THE LESS SAID IN PRESS  
ABOUT THE PROJECT THE BETTER. HE STATED, HOWEVER,  
HE DID NOT KNOW HOW LONG THE JOURNALIST WOULD BE WILLING  
WAIT BEFORE WRITING SOMETHING ABOUT IT AND HE AGREED  
THAT IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF PRESS WROTE ABOUT  
PROJECT AND IT WAS LATER DISAPPROVED.

3. PROVIDING DETAILS OF PROJECT CAN BE WORKED OUT  
SATISFACTORILY TO ALL PARTIES, AND THAT OF COURSE INVOLVES  
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PAGE 02 OSLO 00265 161004Z

NORWEGIAN POLAR INSTITUTE, NORWEGIANS WOULD LIKE

SEE PROJECT UNDERTAKEN. IT WOULD PROVIDE YEAR-ROUND  
PRESENCE OF ANOTHER WESTERN NATION IN THE AREA TO HELP  
COUNTERBALANCE SOVIET ACTIVITY, WOULD EVIDENCE US  
INTEREST AND WOULD ENHANCE OPPORTUNITIES OF INTERNATIONAL  
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH THERE.

4. WHILE EMBASSY RECOGNIZES PROJECT CONSIDERATION  
HAS ITS OWN TIMETABLE, WE WISH CALL PRESS INTEREST  
AND POSSIBLE PUBLICITY TO PROJECT DIRECTOR'S ATTENTION  
AND URGE THAT WE BE INFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF PROJECT  
STATUS AS REQUESTED OSLO 0142 AND AT APPROPRIATE TIME  
BE GIVEN APPROPRIATE DETAILS WHICH MIGHT BE MADE  
AVAILABLE PUBLICLY.

BYRNE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SVALBARD, PRESS COMMENTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Film Number:** D760017-1030  
**From:** OSLO  
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**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760154/aaaabvsk.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**Reference:** 76 OSLO 142, 76 OSLO 4777, 76 OSLO 226, 76 OSLO 156  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
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